

REMARKS

Claims 1-30 are pending in this application.

By this Amendment, claims 1 and 13 are amended for better clarity. (See specification at, for example, Fig. 3 and paragraphs [0103] and [0106].) Claims 15 and 23 are amended to depend from claim 14, as the Examiner suggested.

Claims 1, 2, 13 and 14 are amended to recite additional features disclosed in the specification at, for example, Fig. 3 and paragraphs [0104] and [0113]. Reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested.

The Office Action objects to the claims. Claims 1, 13, 15 and 23 are amended, as outlined above, to overcome these objections. Accordingly, withdrawal of the objection to claims 1, 13, 15 and 23 is respectfully requested.

The Office Action rejects claims 1-30 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Applicant's admitted prior art (AAPA) in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,362,798 to Kimura. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

The Office Action asserts that AAPA discloses, in Figs. 16 and 17, elements 72 and 75 that provide reference voltage having a value of either V_{ref} or zero. The Office Action further asserts that Kimura discloses, in Fig. 1, using a threshold voltage of a compensating transistor 120 to change a voltage.

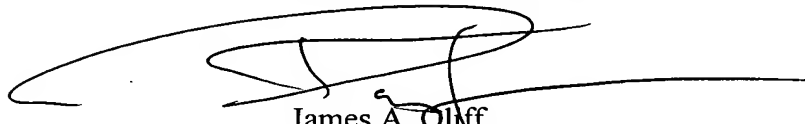
However, the AAPA and Kimura do not disclose or suggest a compensating circuit using a transistor that has a threshold voltage substantially identical to the threshold voltage of one of the plurality of transistors. Thus, the AAPA and Kimura do not disclose or suggest the threshold voltage of the transistor being substantially identical to a threshold voltage of one of the plurality of current-generating active elements, as recited in claim 1, and similarly recited in claims 2, 13 and 14.

For at least the above reasons, the AAPA and Kimura do not disclose or suggest the subject matter recited in claims 1, 2, 13 and 14, and claims 3-12 and 15-30 depending therefrom. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1-30 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) is respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of claims 1-30 are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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Attachment:
Request for Continued Examination

Date: June 16, 2006

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